

The A. F. of L. Weekly News Service is a weekly publication of the American Federation of Labor, published by the National Labor Relations Board, and is the official newspaper of the A. F. of L. It is published every week, except on Sundays and public holidays.

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# AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

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WASHINGTON, D. C., SATURDAY, MARCH 9, 1940.

Necessarily in the place for every... It is the argument of every... It is the cry of the masses... —William Pitt.

VOL. 30, NO. 10

## FACING the FACTS

With PHILIP PEARL.

Assistant Attorney General Thurman Arnold is attempting to substitute a bill of revenge for the bill of rights protecting American workers. This is the purpose of his new bill, the "Anti-Trust Suits Against Labor Unions" bill. It is a bill of revenge because it attacks on labor with the same weapons that he himself uses to attack on labor as a defender of empire.

"What is all this about?" Mr. Arnold asks with an air of innocence. "I am only doing what the legitimate activities of labor unions are entitled to do. I am only doing what the legitimate activities of labor unions are entitled to do. I am only doing what the legitimate activities of labor unions are entitled to do."

1.—We do not shield nor condone wrongdoing by unions or their officials. On the contrary, we regard the wrongdoing of unions as a disgraceful thing. 2.—But under no circumstances must the anti-trust laws be invoked against labor.

And Here is Why  
The anti-trust laws originally were adopted by Congress to break up business and financial trusts which operated in restraint of trade. There was no thought of applying these laws to labor. However, the courts did so and the Judiciary Branch has been ever since the American Federation of Labor.

Mr. Arnold lists five types of union activities which he will prosecute as illegal. He says that the activities listed by Mr. Arnold actually are legal, but that he will prosecute them as illegal.

For, you see, if the facts are considered from the point of view of an employer, organized labor is the most obnoxious enemy that he has. That is the way he looks at it. That is the way he looks at it. That is the way he looks at it.

So, we say to Mr. Arnold, why stop with five commands against labor? Why not be consistent and go the whole hog? Why not outlaw all unions entirely?

I Am the Law, Arnold  
Now let's take a look at some of the activities which Mr. Arnold on his own motion and by his own volition has decided to prosecute.

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## IMPORTANT NOTICE TO EDITORS OF ALL LABOR NEWSPAPERS

Beginning with its next issue, the American Federation of Labor Weekly News Service will be edited under a new policy designed to make the service of greater assistance to the labor press. The chief changes are:

1.—Copies will be mailed regularly on Tuesday night, instead of Friday, as at present.

2.—News stories will be shorter and snappier and carefully edited so that they can be picked up by the labor press without condensation or re-writing.

3.—The service will be printed on one side of a single sheet, the same size as at present. When necessary, text of speeches and statements, filler and other material will be mailed separately in a mimeographed supplement each week.

We would be glad to receive comments and criticism from the editors of the labor newspapers on the news service so that we can make it conform to the needs of the labor press.

## Anti-Trust Suits Against Labor Unions Denounced by A. F. L. Building Trades

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.  
WASHINGTON, D. C., March 9.—(AP)—A. F. L. Building Trades denounced the anti-trust suits against labor unions proposed by Assistant Attorney General Thurman Arnold.

"The anti-trust suits are a direct attack on the right of labor to organize and to bargain collectively," said a statement issued by the Building Trades. "They are a direct attack on the right of labor to organize and to bargain collectively."

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## Campaign Happening American Federation of Labor To Organize 500,000 Workers in Southern States

Class War is Hit By Green in Opening Drive To Organize Southern Workers; Cooperation Of A. F. of L. Unions With Industry Pledged

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.  
Atlanta, Ga.—(AP)—President William Green's radio address to the Southern Labor Conference was the first of a series of addresses by the A. F. of L. to the Southern States.

There is no longer any need for the country for wage differentials for any particular section. The United States is and must be an economic whole. The American standard of living must be the standard for the entire nation.

This is the patriotic goal of the American Federation of Labor in its effort to organize the unorganized workers of the South. We do not propose to accomplish our ends by revolution. That is not our way. We propose to help the workers of the South to organize their own unions.

Union-management cooperation is one of the guiding principles of the American Federation of Labor. We refuse and always have refused to accept the doctrine of a never-ending class war between the workers of our country and the owners and managers of industry.

In recent years, the American Federation of Labor has made great forward strides in organizing Southern workers. Our unions, our State Federations, and our city central bodies in the South have earned the respect and the confidence of the workers and the owners and managers of industry.

I want to give the workers of the South this assurance—when you organize into unions affiliated with the American Federation of Labor, you will be helping to build a better South and you will run your own affairs.

I want to give the people of the South this assurance—the unions of the American Federation of Labor are not interested in disrupting, destroying, or breaking up the South. They are interested in building a better South.

Within a few days, the organizers of our Southern unions will be visiting the States to help and encourage the workers of the South to organize their own unions.

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.  
Atlanta, Ga.—Following are excerpts from the legislative program and declaration of policy adopted by the American Federation of Labor at its annual convention in Atlantic City, N. J., last year.

CHILD LABOR  
WE RECOMMEND THE ENACTMENT OF LEGISLATION PROHIBITING THE EMPLOYMENT OF CHILDREN UNDER 18 AND PROHIBITING THE EMPLOYMENT OF CHILDREN UNDER 16 IN HAZARDOUS OCCUPATIONS.

WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION  
WE RECOMMEND THAT THE BENEFITS OF WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION BE SECURED TO ALL EMPLOYEES BY THE ENACTMENT OF LEGISLATION PROVIDING FOR THE PAYMENT OF COMPENSATION TO THE DEPENDENTS OF EMPLOYEES WHO ARE KILLED OR DISABLED BY INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS OR DURING THE COURSE OF EMPLOYMENT.

UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION  
WE RECOMMEND NO CONSIDERATION BE GIVEN TO CUTS IN CONTRIBUTION RATES UNTIL ADEQUATE BENEFITS ARE PAID. WHETHER THE CUT IS IN THE FORM OF REDUCTION OF RATE OR IN THE FORM OF A SHORTER PERIOD OF CONTRIBUTION.

HEALTH INSURANCE  
We urge speedy action on the recommendation of the American Federation of Labor favoring the enactment of legislation providing for the payment of compensation to the dependents of employees who are killed or disabled by industrial accidents or during the course of employment.

THE NATIONAL LABOR RELATIONS ACT AND BOARD  
THE SOUTHERN LABOR CONFERENCE AFFIRMS THEIR SUPPORT OF THE NATIONAL LABOR RELATIONS ACT AND THE NATIONAL LABOR RELATIONS BOARD. THEY RECOMMEND THAT THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE ACT BE REJECTED BY THE AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR BE APPROVED.

STATE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR  
WE RECOMMEND A STRONG COORDINATED LABOR DEPARTMENT IN EACH STATE, WITH ALL FUNCTIONS DEALING WITH LABOR RELATIONS, INCLUDING THE ENFORCEMENT OF LABOR LAWS, THE SETTLEMENT OF LABOR DISPUTES, AND THE PROMOTION OF LABOR RELATIONS.

## 3,000 Union Representatives At Southern Labor Conference

Full Pledge Given To Drive To Raise Living Standards of Tied By Higher Wages and Shorter Hours

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.  
Atlanta, Ga.—(AP)—The greatest organizing campaign in the South ever undertaken by the American Federation of Labor was launched this week at the Southern Labor Conference, which opened in Atlanta today.

Delegates assembled at the two-day Southern Labor Conference, which opened in Atlanta today, pledged to drive to raise living standards of tied by higher wages and shorter hours.

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